

AGENDA	DIALOGUE	ACTION ITEMS
I. Chair Olsen Billings called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.		
a. Roll Call	<p><u>Commission Members Present:</u> Adam Vauthier, Bob Nystuen, Chantel Schieffer, Erica McKay, Heather Margolis, Jack Chambers, Jackie Girard, Jim Corson, Jim Larson, Karin Olsen Billings, Kevin Myhre, Major Lori Chamberlin, Nancy Matheson, Wendy Nicolai</p> <p><u>Commission Members Excused:</u> David Van Son, Dustin Whitford</p> <p><u>Guests and Staff Present:</u> OCS- Dan Ritter, Jim Auer, Marissa Perry, Kris MacIntyre, Sunni Hitchcock, Betsy Miller, <i>Energy Corps</i>- Kaleena Miller, <i>Montana Conservation Corps</i>- Jono McKinney, <i>Prevention Resource Center</i>- Abby Zent, <i>No Kid Hungry AmeriCorps</i>- Rosie Cody</p>	
b. Approval of March 12, 2014 Minutes	Commissioner Nicolai moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Margolis seconded, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.	<i>March 12, 2014 Minutes approved.</i>
c. Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Olsen Billings announced staff changes and welcomed new positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Betsy Miller is the new ReadyMontana Grants Coordinator Major Lori Chamberlin is the new Military Affairs Representative on the Commission Amy Busch with CNCS has accepted a position as the CNCS State Director in Wyoming.. Nancy Matheson is retiring from her position at the Department of Agriculture Chair Olsen Billings announced the Commissioners whose terms expire in July and told them to contact the Governor's Office if they are interested in reapplying: Jim Corson, David Van Son, Jack Chambers, Dustin Whitford 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Olsen Billings provided an update on a letter that went to CNCS CEO Wendy Spencer regarding the Commission's objection to the President's proposed Senior Corps changes outlined in his budget. 	
II. Governor's Office of Community Service Updates		
a. Financial Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCS applied for a new Homeland Security Project Grant (HSPG) \$128,209 was awarded, waiting for formal notification from DES OCS is in the preliminary stages of preparing for legislature, working with DLI in preparation for the 2015 session Had available travel reimbursements and In-Kind forms 	
b. AmeriCorps in Indian Country	<p>Marissa Perry provided an update on AmeriCorps in Indian Country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the fifth year that the OCS compiled this information and distributed to Commissioners. A handout was provided that highlighted the work and stories of AmeriCorps programs and members in Indian Country. Marissa noted that all programs are actively trying to build relationships with tribal government and organizations as well as recruit American Indian members. Marissa also noted that more information and stories were collected regarding AmeriCorps programs and their work in Indian Country that will be provided to the Governor's Staff for the 2014 Governor's Tribal-Relations Report. 	
c. National Service Accommodations Assessment	<p>Jim Auer referred to the handout regarding the National Service Accommodations Assessment which was used to assess the disability inclusion efforts of Montana national service programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We conducted our National Service Accommodation Assessment again this year. The purpose is to get a snapshot of how programs are doing engaging individuals with disabilities Surveys are random and disabilities are self- 	

	<p>reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We define disability as: a condition that substantially limits one or more of your major life activities 	
d. Communication Highlights	<p>Marissa Perry provided an update on events and communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Youth Service Day was April 11-14 and there were 15 projects across the state which engaged 640 youth in 3,000 hours of service that benefited and estimated 17,500 Montanans. Most of the projects were related to community gardens, park clean-ups, or children's hunger awareness. • The Youth Serve Montana Scholarships were announced in May and were awarded to 100 students from 72 high schools. Montana Campus Compact and the Student Assistance Foundation were thanked for their continuing support of the scholarships. The Scholarship Review Committee was thanked for taking the time to review the scholarships which included Commissioner Nicolai, Director Ritter, Josh Vanek-MTCC, Kelly Cresswell-SAF, Molly Wilkins-SAF VISTA • The Volunteers of the Games will again be recognized at home Griz and Cat football games this fall. The Volunteer of the Game is also being expanded to include NAIA Frontier League institutions (Carroll College, MSU Northern, UM Western, Montana Tech, Rocky Mountain College), and will focus specifically on recognizing youth and students who volunteer at one home game per institution. • Marissa Perry, Director Ritter, Chair Olsen Billings, and Vice Chair Vauthier traveled with Lt. Governor Angela McLean to launch the first-ever Lt. Governor Civic Engagement Award to a volunteer in an Anaconda high school vo-tech classroom. The award will be presented quarterly. 	
e. Ready Montana Highlights	<p>Betsy Miller provided an update on Ready Montana:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disaster simulation was piloted during the serve 	

	<p>symposium and was a big success. We're currently looking for a venue to run it again.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first PrepareAthon was held in April. It is a FEMA initiative to encourage individual and community preparedness. ReadyMT used a business ready approach and worked with the MT Chamber of Commerce, Dept of Economic Development, and the MT Nonprofit Association. • FireReady is our current focus. We hosted Wildfire Awareness Week, June 2-8. We also worked with the Red Cross, FireSafe MT and the DNRC to host an event on June 3rd at the Capitol. We'll be tabling at several baseball games this summer and handing out fire preparedness materials. • We are working on a new website respond.mt.gov which will give guidance on responsible donating and volunteering during and after disasters. This is a joint effort between OCS, DPHHS, VOAD, and DES • Per usual, we have some preparedness parties and map your neighborhood events going on throughout the state 	
III. FY 2013 AmeriCorps State Formula Funding		
a. Competitive Funding Update	<p>Jim Auer provided the following competitive funding update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We submitted 4 applications for competitive funding and three were awarded. • Montana State Parks and Justice for Montanans moved out of our formula portfolio into competitive. • Montana Conservation Corps received continuation funding and requested 10 additional slots at no additional cost • Energy Corps was not selected for funding • Regarding National Directs • The Compact Service Corps, which the Montana Campus Compact was a partner on, was not selected for funding. • At a result of this nearly \$300,000 in formula funds were free from what had been funded in 2013. 	
b. Applicant Descriptions	Commissioner Margolis provided formula applicant descriptions	
c. Formula Funding Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Margolis provided the funding recommendation for the 2014 formula funding applicants: 	

	FoodCorps Montana - \$125,000 Big Sky Watershed Corps - \$234,000 Montana Energy Corps - \$167,267	
d. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Corson asked if FoodCorps is still based out of New York and who the subgrantee is. Commissioner Margolis responded that the National FoodCorps is based out of New York, while the Montana host organization is NCAT in Butte. • Commissioner Schieffer asked if the FoodCorps members will be placed in the same communities as the year before. Commissioner Margolis did not know where they will be placed. • Jim Auer commented that there is supplemental funding left on the table that can be requested, but so far no applicants were interested in the supplemental. • Commissioner Corson asked if planning grants were considered with the extra formula funding. Jim Auer replied that they were discussed. 	
e. Action Item: Formula Funding Recommendations	<p>Commissioner Olsen Billings asked for a motion to accept Formula grant funding with funding distributed as follows: FoodCorps Montana - \$125,000 Big Sky Watershed Corps - \$234,000 Montana Energy Corps - \$167,267 With remaining funds distributed to programs to pay attendance to the Serve Montana Symposium</p> <p>Commissioner Chambers made the motion, Commissioner Corson seconded, the motion carried and the formula funding recommendation was approved.</p>	<i>Formula Funding Recommendation: Approved</i>
f. Formula Funding Recommendation: Montana No Kid Hungry AmeriCorps	Commissioner Matheson provided the funding recommendation for the Montana No Kid Hungry AmeriCorps. Because there was only one applicant and the application was being graded for compliancy, Commissioner Matheson was the only reviewer.	
g. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Olsen Billings commented that the Office 	

	<p>of Public Instruction believes in the importance of school breakfast and has been looking closely at the increasing studies and data on the benefits. She believes this program will help schools get past certain issues and expand school breakfast.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Girard asked which 5 communities members will be placed in. Commissioner Matheson said they could refer the question to the Program Director during the public comment section. • Commissioner Schieffer asked if we will see this program in the coming years apply for funding. Jim Auer responded that this would be a three year grant. 	
h. Action Item: Formula Funding Recommendation for Montana No Kid Hungry AmeriCorps	<p>Commissioner Olsen Billings asked for a motion to accept Formula grant funding of \$65,000 for MT No Kid Hungry AmeriCorps.</p> <p>Commissioner Larson made the motion, Commission Schieffer seconded, the motion carried and the formula funding recommendation was approved.</p>	<i>Formula Funding Recommendation: Approved</i>
IV. Commissioner Reports and Updates		
a. Commissioners' recent volunteer engagements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Olsen Billings told how OPI picks a charity to volunteer and raise money for. This year, they helped organize an item drive and raise over \$1,000 for building repairs for the YWCA. • Commissioner Nicolai has been serving as the chair of the Career Training Institute, and read MLK-themed books to 5th graders. • Commissioner Chamberlin volunteers at the Montana Military Museum and the Lewis and Clark County Historical Society. • Commissioner Margolis serves on the Holter Board and Helena Youth Philanthropy Council. • Commissioner Matheson volunteers with FoodCorps members and serves on the board of the AERO. • Commissioner McKay has been working to get community service as a core curriculum component at MSU. She also is 	

	<p>organizing community members to volunteer for move-in day at MSU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Schieffer has been focusing her volunteer efforts on food security issues, like the Community Café, and has also been working with children with disabilities. • Commissioner Larson and his Teamsters are organizing an Ironhorsemen motorcycle group to collect donated school supplies and put them into backpacks. • Commissioner Vauthier has been working with the Code of Montana program, as well as recreation and economic development projects in downtown Anaconda. • Commissioner Nystuen and a team from Glacier Bank volunteered with Project Homeless Connect. He is also working on a committee to find funding and a new location for the food bank in Kalispell. • Commissioner Chambers volunteered on the Formula Grant Review Committee, and has been spending lots of time fishing. • Commissioner Girard thanked Amy Busch for her years of service with CNCS and invited Commissioners to join her farewell at the Overland on June 27th at 4:00PM. She also mentioned that they are recruiting for the new State Program Specialist position, and that the pre-service orientation for the VISTA's begins on July 18th. • Commissioner Corson has been attending orientations and other events for the Billings Metro VISTA Project. • Commissioner Myhre has been organizing a fundraiser for trail projects -- Trails, Bails, and Ales as well as Friends of Community Pool. 	
V. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Margolis provided an updated on CNCS funding. • Commissioner Corson inquired about getting a farewell gift for Amy Busch. Sunni Hitchcock stated that she would look into the possibility and see if there is funding. 	
VI. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosie Cody introduced herself as the new Program Coordinator for MT No Kid Hungry AmeriCorps. She informed the Commissioner that the five members will be placed in Billings, Kalispell, Great Falls, Missoula, and Helena. She also stated that they are targeting the highest 	

	<p>need areas to do the most good with the most kids. The program will be aimed across all grade levels, but that efforts will be greatest at the elementary school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jono McKinney, the President and CEO of Montana Conservation Corps provided a program update to Commissioners. He thanked them for supporting the Big Sky Watershed Corps and increasing their member slots to eighteen. MCC brought on 160 members two weeks ago to start on the field crews. MCC has twelve veterans serving with the Veterans Green Corps this year. This is the second year of the Bridging Cultures Initiative. Twelve MCC projects were chosen out of 50 total projects for the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness act. The HRDC just developed a month-long field crew for at-risk students. Jono also thanked Commissioner Corson for his service on the Commission. • Abby Zent from the PRC updated that four summer associates began serving in Boulder, Anaconda, Missoula and Kalispell and will be working on Summer Food Programs. The PRC has wrapped up recruitment for the July VISTA's. There will be thirteen new VISTA's, one returning, and one doing an additional six months. • Ken Soderberg with Montana State Parks AmeriCorps provided a program update. MSP AmeriCorps just sent eighteen new members across the state to serve at various State Parks. Next year, they will grow to twenty members after being funded competitively. Ken also thanked OCS for their efforts in putting together the ServeMontana Symposium and stated that it was very helpful for his members to network with others. • Kaleena Miller with NCAT thanked the Commission for funding Energy Corps. 	
VII. Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.	

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